



Plant Materials Program 1998 HIGHLIGHTS

Products and Accomplishments

About the Program

The mission of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Plant Materials Program is to develop and transfer effective state-of-the-art Plant Sciences Technology to meet customer and resource needs. NRCS Plant Materials activities are consistent with the objectives of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and NRCS Strategic Plans, namely to provide timely and effective vegetative solutions for resource needs

To accomplish this purpose, NRCS operates and maintains its Plant Materials Program with a network of 26 Plant Materials Centers and 15 Plant Materials Specialists. Products from the program include plant releases, written plant science information, and oral presentations.

Conservation Plant Releases for Commercial Production

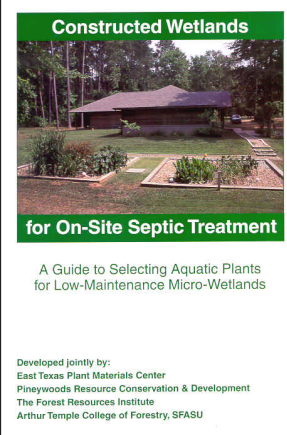
There were 23 new plant releases in 1998 in support of conservation issues such as buffers, wetland creation and restoration, wildlife habitat, forage improvement, bioengineering, soil stabilization, windbreaks/shelterbelts, and roadside revegetation.

'Kanoka'
roundhead
lespedeza
(a 1998
release by the
Kansas
PMC)



Written Technology Transfer

Type of Publication	Number
Technical Notes, Fact Sheets, Brochures	120
Stand alone Publications	45
Popular Articles	28
Refereed Papers, Symposiums, Posters	54
Technical and Progress Reports	89
Total Publications	336



Oral Technology Transfer

Type of Presentation	Number	# of People
Training Sessions	108	4,055
Tours	152	3,230
Local Presentations	144	13,446
Regional Presentations	79	9,121
National Presentations	18	2,855
International Presentations	24	2,090
Total Presentations	525	24,797



Commercial Production of NRCS Releases in 1998

There are a total of 476 releases in the Plant Materials Program, over 350 of which are still considered active. The following table summarizes the commercial production of 266 plant releases in commercial production in 1998.

Type	Amount	Value
Foundation Seed	952,758 lbs.	\$1,171,375
Certified Seed	8,463,216 lbs.	\$48,437,536
Common Seed	5,915,960 lbs.	\$28,061,266
All Plants	16,413,917 ea.	\$15,308,588
Total		\$92,978,765

Plant and Technology Development Plantings

- There were 518 studies with 72,884 plots and 199,136 plot evaluations in 1998.
- 1,200 Field Plantings were on Farms and Ranches.
- 369 Conservation Field Trials were in place evaluating and demonstrating new technology.



For more information on the Plant Materials Program, visit our web site at:

<http://Plant-Materials.nrcs.usda.gov>

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write the USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.